

Maurice River Oyster Culture Foundation Inc.

Todd Reeves, President
Hillard Bloom, Vice President
Wm. Riffin, Treasurer

P. O. Box 662
Port Norris, New Jersey 08349 USA
(609) 785-0402

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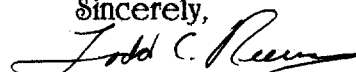
Food and Drug Administration
16 April 1999
Dockets Management Branch
HFA 305
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm 1061
Rockville MD 20852

RE: NESGD Comments on FDA Docket No. 98D-0504

It has come to our attention that the Centre for Science in the Public Interest has petitioned the FDA to require performance standards for *Vibrio* in shellfish - specifically the pasteurization of bivalves that have been harvested from certain areas. We have examined the petition and find the information therein misleading and the supporting rationale to be defective.

We have also reviewed the comments on this issue that are to be submitted by to your office on behalf of the northeastern shellfish growers and dealers and we hereby signal our full support for this initiative.

Sincerely,



Todd Reeves
President

98P-0504

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Peterson Packing Co., Inc.

Packers of

Tallmadge Bros. Oysters

2601 Ogden Ave. Port Norris, NJ 08349



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